

February 13, 2003

The Honorable Michael Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte -- CC Docket No. 01-338, CC Docket No. 96-98, CC Docket No. 98-147
and CC Docket No. 02-33

Dear Chairman Powell:

On behalf of the hundreds of Internet Service Providers we collectively represent, we are writing to express our urgent concern that the Commission preserve its pro-competitive and pro-consumer line-sharing policies at issue in the above-referenced proceedings.

Our ISP members are doing the hard work, community by community, of deploying broadband networks to benefit consumers and the nation. Line sharing is a powerful tool they must have to succeed in moving America to a broadband economy. Line sharing:

- Promotes **lower prices** for consumers, which
- Increases **adoption, and demand for**, broadband services, which
- Supports **innovation** in services and content, which
- Accelerates **economic development**.

Without line sharing policies, the Commission will be slowing deployment of competitive broadband networks and actually raising rather than lowering consumer prices. In this challenging economic climate, we urge the Commission to ensure that American consumers and businesses will continue to enjoy the service and pricing benefits and innovations of the competitive ISP market. We urge the Commission to preserve and advance its line sharing policies, which have been a key component of our success.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Jackman, Executive Director
California Internet Service Providers Association
David Robertson, President
Texas Internet Service Providers Association
Kitty Sachs, Executive Director
Virginia Internet Service Providers Association
Gary Gardner, Executive Director
Washington Association of Internet Service Providers